

Amblecote Urban District Council.

REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

**For the Year ending
December 31st, 1925.**

BRIERLEY HILL:

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Amblecote Urban District Council.



Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health,

For the Year ending
31st December, 1925.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report, including the Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1925.

The Report is drawn up on the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health, *i.e.*, a Survey Report covering the previous five years. It also includes the Vital Statistics and progress during the year 1925.

Paragraph 3 of the circular (648) of the Ministry of Health dated December 10th, 1925, as to the contents and arrangements of the Report is as follows :—

“ It was intimated in paragraph 13 of circular (540) of December 18th, 1924, that the Annual Report should be prepared to deal comprehensively with :—

(a) The measure of progress made in the area during the preceding five years in the improvement of the public health.

(b) The extent and character of the changes made during that period in the public health services of the area (*e.g.*, housing, water supply, sewerage, scavenging or refuse disposal, food inspect-

ion or other services affecting the environment of the inhabitants) and maternity and child welfare schemes, schemes for the treatment of Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases, Isolation Hospitals, and other services directed to the prevention and cure of diseases in individuals.

(c) * Any further action of importance in the organisation and development of public health services contemplated by the Local Authority or considered desirable by the Medical Officer of Health."

The subjects to be dealt with fall under the following heading :—

- 1 Natural and social conditions of the area.
- 2 General provision of health services in the area.
- 3 Sanitary circumstances of the area.
- 4 Housing.
- 5 Inspection or supervision of food.
- 6 Prevalence of, and control over infectious disease.
- 7 Maternity and child welfare.

I. NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	665
Population, Census 1921	...	...	...	...	3,236
Estimated to middle of 1925	...	...	...	...	3,239

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE AREA.

Physical Features.—Amblecote is situated in South Staffordshire and was constituted an Urban District in the year 1908. It is bounded on the North by the Urban District of Brierley Hill, and Rural District of Kingswinford; on the East by the Urban District of Quarry Bank; and on the South and West it adjoins the County of Worcester. Its natural drainage is into the river Stour, which forms its Western boundary. Its highest level is 436 feet; its lowest level 223 feet. Part of the district, lying to the North-East, stands on the extreme Western boundary of the South Staffordshire coal measures, containing many beds of clay. The other part of the district lies beyond the Stourbridge fault, which cuts off and covers the coal measures, with the new red sandstone and permian beds, giving a much drier soil, as the sand is soft and water percolates through it quickly. In this part the bulk of population live. The subsoil water varies.

Number of inhabited houses (1921) ...	...	745
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)		732
Rateable value ...	...	£21,158
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	...	£83

Social Conditions.—The chief occupations of the inhabitants consist of glass works, fire-clay and brick works, galvanizing works and iron foundries. These occupations employ a considerable number of persons both male and female. The unemployment figures for Amblecote are low as compared with adjoining areas.

Industrial Diseases.—Lead poisoning, which at one time was common amongst glass polishers, is now almost negligible, owing to improved methods and the introduction of acid polishing. None of the other occupations appear to have any particular influence on the public health of the district.

Hospital Relief.—The local hospital is always full, and from other hospitals outside the area, relief can easily be obtained, and are in fact very extensively used.

VITAL STATISTICS.

One has always to bear in mind, that in a district of so small population as Amblecote, it is not advisable to draw conclusions from individual years. Any accidental error, is however, very much contracted, when the mean figures of the periods given are compared. It may be noted that the birth-rate is low, and the general death-rate compares very favourably with similar Urban Districts, and the same remark applies to all the other figures.

The following figures represent the mean rate for the past five years, 1920-1924.

Birth-rate per 1000 of population	...	...	20·1
Death-rate per 1000 of population	...	...	10·7
Infantile Mortality (per 1000 registered births)	...	...	40
Zymotic Mortality per 1000 of population	...	...	0·3
Diphtheria	"	"	0·0
Enteric Fever	"	"	0·0
Diarrhœa	"	"	0·0
Phthisis	"	"	0·4
Cancer	"	"	1·2
Influenza	"	"	0·2
Respiratory Diseases	"	"	1·4

From these figures one may reasonably conclude that Amblecote is a remarkably clean and healthy district.

For the year 1925 the figures are :—

Birth-rate per 1000 of population	...	...	14·20
Death-rate per 1000 of population	...	...	10·05
Infantile Mortality (per 1000 registered births)	...	...	43
Zymotic Mortality per 1000 of population	...	...	0·00
Diphtheria	"	"	0·00
Enteric Fever	"	"	0·00
Diarrhoea	"	"	0·00
Phthisis	"	"	0·30
Cancer	"	"	1·52
Influenza	"	"	0·00
Respiratory Diseases	"	"	2·46

Ages at which death occurred (all causes).

Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over.
2	1	1	0	4	7	21

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year 1925.

BIRTHS			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	26	18	44
Illegitimate	...	...	2		2
			Total	...	46

Birth-rate 1925—14·20 1924—18·90.

DEATHS					
Males	...	...	...	...	16
Females	...	...	...	...	18
			Total	...	34

Death-rate 1925—10·05 1924—10·31

No woman has died in consequence of child-birth.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year requiring special consideration.

The amount of Poor Law Relief is £147 17s. od.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals.

- 1 Tuberculosis, County Sanatoria within 3 or 4 miles.
- 2 Maternity, none other than the Union Infirmary where private cases are taken on moderate terms.

- 3 Children at the Local Hospital.
- 4 Fever, Kingswinford Isolation Hospital.
- 5 Under County Council Scheme.
- 6 Guest Hospital, Dudley, Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

The only Hospital within the area is the Corbett Hospital, with thirty beds.

No Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the area, other than the Union House.

Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) From Kingswinford Isolation Hospital.
- (b) None, but easily obtained from Brierley Hill and Stourbridge.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

- 1 Maternity and Child Welfare Centres—one.
- 2 Day Nurseries—none.
- 3 School Clinics—one.
- 4 Tuberculosis Dispensaries, Wolverhampton and Dudley Committee, at Dudley.
- 5 For Venereal Diseases, Clinic at Local Hospital.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITY.

- 1 Medical Officer : Part time. One half of salary contributed under Public Health Act.
- 2 Sanitary Inspector (Cert. R.S.I.) : Whole time. One half of salary contributed under Public Health Act.
- 3 Health Visitor (Certified). One, part time.
- 4 Trained District Nurse. One, part time.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

- (a) General, one District Nurse.
- (b) For Infectious Diseases, *e.g.*, Measles, etc. Extra Nurse engaged if necessary.

The District Nurse is provided by arrangement with the Brierley Hill and Amblecote Voluntary Nursing Association. Amblecote Council contributes part of the salary.

Midwives.—One practicing in the district. No subsidy is paid by the Local Council.

No chemical work has been necessary.

Local Acts and Orders.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Acts, 1890, all sections.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, parts, ii., iii., and v.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Order, adopted.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.—This is supplied by the Stourbridge and District Water Board. The supply is constant and of good quality. Practically all the houses in the area are connected. The Board has a pumping station within the district. The source of supply being wells in the upper soft red beds marked F 3 on the Ordnance Geological Maps of the Bunter or newer lower red sandstone. The bore holes are lined 50 feet, and the water is drawn at 500 feet from the surface. There is no risk of contamination—and no plumbo—solvent action.

Rivers and Streams.—The river Stour forms the Western boundary of the district. There is also a stream which empties into the Stour. No appreciable pollution in either case arising in this district.

Drainage and Sewerage.—There is a complete system of deep drainage, provided with flushing tanks. Amblecote is one of the constituent districts of the Stourbridge Main Drainage Board. The effluent which is finally treated by broad irrigation at Whittington—three miles outside the district, discharges into the river Stour. There is no complaint of pollution.

Scavenging.—This work is still done by contract. Bins being provided and weekly removal. It appears to give satisfaction. There are no complaints of nuisance. For further particulars see Sanitary Inspector's Report (appended).

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report (appended).

Smoke Abatement.—There has been one complaint of nuisance. No local reading of atmospheric impurity taken.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

The number and character of such premises and occupations, are Factories 26, and Workshops 31, of which the details will be found on page 21 of the Sanitary Inspector's Report. There are no houses let in lodgings. No offensive trades. No need for action under Housing Act, 1925, section 18—(1).

Schools.—There are two Elementary Schools. The sanitary condition is good, and the Company's Water laid on. On any outbreak of Infectious Disease the Medical Officer of Health is notified, and action in accordance with the 1925 Memorandum on closure and exclusion is taken when necessary.

For the school children and young people a very good playing field has been provided by the Council, and appears to have met a very necessary purpose.

1—HOUSING.

1 General housing conditions are very good. There are a few old houses, which I would like to see closed, but there is the difficulty of providing suitable houses for the class of tenants now in occupation.

- 2 (a) The shortage of houses is not pronounced.
- (b) The Council is negotiating for building sites.

3 There are no important changes in population during the period under review, and none anticipated.

2—Overcrowding.

- 1 } There is no serious overcrowding in the district. In
- 2 } the poorer houses cases of sex overcrowding are sometimes
- 3 } found.
- 4 No case occurred, no action necessary.

3—Fitness of Houses.

1 (a) The general standard is better than is generally found in industrial areas.

(b) The character of defects found are set out in the table page 22 (Sanitary Inspector's Report appended).

(c) There is no difficulty in getting the owners to do necessary repairs, and I do not think the tenants are particularly negligent.

- 2 (a) Public Health Acts, see Inspector's Report.
 (b) Housing Acts, see Inspector's Report.

4—Unhealthy Areas. No complaints or representations received.

5—Bye-Laws. See Inspector's Report.

6—There is nothing under this head which has not already been stated, excepting the information as to household refuse, etc., which will shortly have special attention. Such information has hitherto been given verbally.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b)	10
(b) With State assistance under Housing Act.	... 9
(i) By the Local Authority	... Nil.
(ii) By other bodies or persons	... 1

1. *Unfit dwelling houses.*

Inspection.—(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	... .. 129
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	... .. 69
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation	... 1
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	34

2. *Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 28
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... Nil.
---	----------

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :—

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|
| (a) By owners | ... | ... | None |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | | | None |

(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close None

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 63

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

- | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (a) By owners | ... | ... | ... | 52 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | | | ... | Nil. |

C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14 & 15, Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to making Closing Orders 1

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which Closing Orders were made 1

(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit None

(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 1

(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

I have no reason to think the supply is not pure and wholesome, or that the arrangements for the supply is inadequate. The Administration under the various Acts will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report (appended).

(i) No action has been taken as to Tuberculous Milk or Cattle. There is very little Tuberculosis of a non-pulmonary character in the district.

(ii) Number of licenses granted for the sale of milk under special designations, Fourth Schedule Order, 1923, none. No apparatus licensed for the pasteurisation of milk.

(iii) No application has been received for registration or licence for graded milk.

(iv) No bacteriological examination of samples of milk.

(b) Meat.

(i) }
(ii) } See Sanitary Inspector's Report (appended).
(iii) }

Private Slaughter Houses.

	In 1920.	In January, 1925.	December, 1925.
Registered	I	I	I
Licensed	I	0	0

(c) Other Foods.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report (appended).

(d) No case of food poisoning has occurred. No action under condensed milk or dried milk regulations, 1923.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1925.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5								
10								
15								
20								
25						2		
35		I				11		
45	I							
55								
65								
Total	I	I				11		

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Under Article 3 action was taken in one case to prevent milk cans being taken into the house. No compensation paid.

Public Health Acts 1925, Section 62.

No action has been necessary under this section.

Of the two deaths which occurred one was a case which came to reside from outside and died three weeks later. The other was an old case.

I have not found any failure to notify.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases Generally.

Amblecote is remarkably free from Infectious Diseases. The total number notified during the year from all cases being 8.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin.—Is supplied free to the Doctors. It has been used twice. One notification received.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—No case notified.

Scarlet Fever.—No return cases.

Pneumonia.—One notification received.

Malaria, Dysentery and Trench Fever.—No notification.

Examination of pathological and bactiological specimens, by arrangement with the County Council.

The number sent is 9.

Tuberculosis	7.	Positive	2.	Negative	5.
Diphtheria	2.	„	1.	„	1.

Schick and Dick tests have not been used.

The number of re-vaccinations by the Medical Officer of Health is 6.

There have been no notification of non-notifiable diseases, excepting those received from the Elementary Schools—Chicken Pox and Measles.

No epidemic of Influenza has occurred.

Verminous Persons.—No case has been reported. There are no facilities available within the district, other than ordinary fumigation and disinfection.

Cancer.—The average number of deaths from this disease for the five years, 1920-24, is five.

For the year 1925 the number is five.

The ages at which the 1925 deaths occurred is :—

Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45-	45-65	65 and over
0	0	0	0	0	2	3

The occupation of the persons who died from Cancer during 1925, is:—

Housewife 1, Labourer 2, Innkeeper 1, Dentist 1.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis), during 1925.

Disease			Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total deaths
Small Pox	...	...	
Scarlet Fever	...	...	3	2	
Diphtheria	...	...	1	1	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	
Puerperal Fever	...	...	
Pneumonia	...	...	1		
Erysipelas	...	...	1		
Other diseases generally notifiable					
Other diseases notifiable locally					
Total	...	...	6	3	

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There is one Centre at Amblecote, which is open to the attendance of infants and expectant mothers once a week. The Medical Officer sees any cases that require his advice. The Centre is under the control of a Joint Committee, consisting of Members of the Brierley Hill and Amblecote Council. There is also a Ladies' Voluntary Committee. One of the members being co-opted on the General Committee.

There are no Maternity Homes. There are facilities for Maternity cases at the Union Infirmary, on payment of a small charge.

There is one Local General Hospital, to which children from the Centre are admitted when necessary. No subsidy is paid by the Council.

No maternal deaths have occurred.

Still births and Infants deaths are enquired into by the Health Visitor, and reported to the Medical Officer.

Unmarried mothers, illegitimate or destitute children are provided for at the Union Infirmary when necessary.

Food and milk is supplied by the Ladies' Voluntary Committee, with assistance in necessitous cases from the Guardians.

Orthopædic treatment can be obtained at Birmingham.

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum has been reported.

The following summary of the year's work is supplied by the Health Visitor.

Notification of Births :—

Legitimate	Illegitimate	Still Births	By Midwife	By Parents and Doctor
37	2	2	36	5

Visits of Health Visitor :—

	1st Visits	Re-visits.
To Expentant Mothers	8	20
Children under one year	34	944

Total number on Books, December 31st, 1925 ... 542

Total attendances :—

(a) Children	...	...	...	...	1126
(b) Health Visitor	...	...	...	...	46
Medically examined	...	...	...	...	32

Tuberculosis :—

Visits of Health Visitor, 49. New Cases, 3.

	£	s.	d.
Relief provided by Ladies' Voluntary Committee ...	50	6	11
Total amount raised, voluntary effort ...	47	2	11

Our thanks are again due to the Ladies' Voluntary Committee for their continued interest and valuable help in the success of the Centre.

In the Sanitary Inspectors' Report will be found all the necessary details set forth, covering the years' work in his Department.

The outstanding feature of the five year's survey, is the low Death-rate, the decreasing Infantile Mortality, and the almost complete absence of deaths from Infectious Diseases. It is very satisfactory from a statistical point of view, and confirms the opinion that Amblecote is a healthy place, and the working class population fairly prosperous.

It may be noted that the diseases which show the highest Death-rates are Cancer and Respiratory Diseases. The increasing Death-rate from the former is common to the whole Country, and one can only hope that the "Research Experts" will succeed in their efforts to combat the disease, in the direction of prevention and cure.

With regard to Respiratory Diseases, these deaths are almost entirely amongst people of advanced age, *i.e.*, over 65 years of age in this district.

H. D'ARCY ELLIS,

March 16th, 1926.

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE X.—Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality during the year, 1925.

(Provisional figures The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns).

	BIRTH RATE PER 1000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1000 BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under Two Years).	Total Deaths, under One Year.	Causes of Death certified by Register- ed Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales ...	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	92.1	6.9	1.0
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	92.1	7.3	0.6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000)	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	93.0	5.9	1.1
London ...	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67	91.1	8.9	0.0
Amblecote ...	14.20	10.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00.0	43	90.4	5.8	0.0

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector, For the Year 1925.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Report for 1925.

Dwelling Houses.

Number of Dwelling Houses of all classes	...	785
Number of Working-class Dwelling Houses	...	681
Number of Working-class Houses erected	...	9
Number of other Houses erected	...	1
Number of Houses in course of erection	...	Nil

43 Dwelling House have been erected since 1920, of which 38 may properly be styled "Working-class."

The 43 were provided as follows:—

By the Council, under the Housing (Assisted) Scheme	...	24
By Private Enterprise (Owner Occupiers), with Assistance (£90) under the Housing Acts, 1923, etc.	11	
By Private Enterprise without assistance	8	
		<hr/>
		43
		<hr/>

During the year 10 Houses have been erected—nine with the Subsidy, and one without.

The amount of Subsidy offered by the Council to encourage building is £90 for Owner Occupiers, and £75 for Speculative Builders. No application for the later grant has been made. Land is scarce and not easily obtained. The Council have for some time been endeavouring to secure a site suitable for the erection of a number of houses. Up to the present, however, the negotiations have not produced a definite result. The old Bye-Laws relating to new Streets and Buildings have been cancelled. New model ones have been approved by the Ministry of Health. They are more in accord with modern practice, and provide for New Types of Buildings and allow more elasticity in their application than the old ones.

Sanitary Accommodation.

Houses served by Water Closets	...	758	}	785
Houses served by Privies	...	20		
Houses served by Pan Closets	...	7		
Houses with separate Water Closets	...	523	}	785
Houses with Water Closets in Common	...	235		
Houses with separate Privies	...	18		
Houses with Privies in Common	...	2		
Houses with Pan Closets	...	7		

Seven Houses having Water Closets in common have been provided with separate accommodation during the year.

Total number of Water Closets	...	...	687
Total number of Privies	...	...	16
Total number of Pan Closets	...	...	7

The few Privies and Pan Closets are in an out-lying portion of your District, on the Mining Area where Sewer Accommodation is not practicable.

The conversion of Privies to Water Closets was tackled in earnest about 1906. Since that date 332 Privies have been wiped out and replaced by Water Closets. In each instance they were dealt with under Sec. 36 Public Health Act, 1875, and the necessary work carried out by the owners of the properties.

Scavenging.

Houses with separate Ashpits	...	190	}	785
Houses with Ashpits in common	...	235		
Houses with Bins	...	333		
Houses with Privies and Pans	...	27		

There are 309 Ashpits and 268 Bins in your District. During year 10 Ashpits have been demolished and replaced by 15 Sanitary Dust Bins. Since 1906, 298 Dust Bins have been substituted for Ashpits.

Refuse Removal.

The work of removal is efficiently performed under Contract. The number of Loads removed during the year is 943.

Slaughter Houses.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

There is one Slaughter House only—Registered. Two shops in the District are supplied from it. It is in regular use. The ventila-

tion, floors and walls, and drainage are good. The supply of water is abundant. It is kept in good clean condition, and is frequently limewashed. There are suitable fasting pens apart from the place of slaughter. If the necessity arises the premises can be disinfected at a moments notice.

The provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924 were duly put into force on April 1st last. The Slaughter House is regularly visited when slaughtering is in progress. The following carcasses have been inspected, viz.:—Beasts 108; Swine 216; Sheep 288. The quality of meat killed is excellent. 12 Notices of intention to slaughter swine on private premises have been received. These were duly visited and the carcasses inspected.

Milk.

Cowsheds 3. Dairies 4.

The number of cows kept is approximately 50. Two of the Cow-keepers are "Producer Retailers." The sheds are kept clean, and each has a good supply of water. The cows are turned out on pasture land whenever the weather permits. The only matter calling for comment, is the tendency, in one instance, to keep manure on the premises longer than is necessary. Disinfection of the sheds, if required, can be carried out at short notice. There has fortunately been no outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in your District. Greater part of the Milk consumed in Amblecote is produced in the surrounding Districts and is distributed by Retailers from door to door.

Bakehouses.

On Register 4. 1 Factory. 3 Workshops.

They are kept in good sanitary condition and the requirements as to Limewashing are carried out. There are no "Underground Bakehouses."

Preparation and Distribution of Food.

The conditions relating to the preparation of Meat, Milk and Bread for sale have been referred to. The Retail Distribution of Foodstuffs is carried out in the following Shops, viz.:—Butchers 4 (two selling meat slaughtered in other districts); Bakers and Grocers 7; Greengrocers 5; Fried Fish Shops 2; Mixed or General Shops 13; Restaurant 1. There are no Stalls or Markets. Most of food retailed at the "General Shops" is usually obtained from the Wholesaler, in Cardboard Cases or Cartons, and reaches the Consumer without exposure of contents. There have been no seizures or surrenders of Unwholesome Food.

**Factories and Workshops.
Factories on the Register.**

Glassmaking and Decorating	...	...	9
Ironworks, Iron Foundries and Machine Shops	...	...	7
Fire Clay and Fire Brick Works	...	...	3
Hollow-ware Works	...	...	1
Saw Mills and Wood-working	...	...	3
Leather and Parchment Works (part of)	...	...	1
Flour Milling	...	...	1
Bakehouses (Factory)	...	...	1
			26

In addition there are Gas Works, Water Pumping Station, Railway Depot, and Engine Cleaning Sheds, Tramways Depot, and Electricity Generating Station, 4 Clay Mines and 1 Coal Mine.

Workshops on the Register.

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	3
Motor Garage and Repair Shops			...	...	4
Carpenters and Cabinet Makers			...	...	5
Blacksmith	...	...	...	...	1
Heating Engineers		...	...	...	1
Glass Works	...	...	...	...	2
Glass Decorating		...	...	...	1
Glass etc., Factors		...	...	...	3
Wood Packing Case Making			...	...	1
Metal Workers (Stamping)	...		...	...	1
Fire Clay (Glass House Pots)			...	...	1
Malting	...	...	...	...	1
Printing	...	...	...	...	1
Shoe Repairing	...	...	...	...	4
Dressmaking (domestic)		...	...	...	2
					<hr/>
					31

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK
carried out in the Sanitary Inspectors' Department during 1925.

		Number of		Abatement Notices		Nuisances abated after notice by	
		Inspections & Observations made	Defects found	Informal by Inspector	Formal by Authority	Inspector	Authority
Dwelling-houses and Schools	Foul Conditions ...	129	21	9	2	18	1
	Structural Defects		27	14	3	20	3
	Overcrowding ...						
	Unfit for Habitation		1		1		1
	Dairies, Cowsheds, etc. ...	59	4	4		4	
	Milkshops ...						
	Bakehouses ...	27	1	1		1	
	Slaughter-houses ...	143	1	1		1	
	Canal Boats ...						
	Ashpits and Privies ...	171	41	18	7	25	11
	Deposits of Refuse & Manure	10	4	4	3	1	3
	Water Closets ...	214	44	21	7	24	14
House Drainage	Defective Traps	142	29	14		27	
	No Disconnection						
	Other Faults ...						
	Water Supply ...						
	Pigsties ...	20	2	2		2	
	Animals Improperly Kept ...	7	2	2		2	
	Offensive Trades and Fish Shops ...	10					
	Smoke Nuisances...	7	1	1			
	Other Nuisances ...						
Totals		1068	179	91	24	125	33

Prosecution was necessary in one instant, viz :—To compel the removal of the tenant from the dwelling house in respect of which a Closing Order had become operative. An Order was obtained from the Justices and was obeyed.

Unwhole-
some Food } No Seizures or Surrenders

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	} 7
(Scarlet Fever 4, Diphtheria 1, Tuberculosis, 2)	...	
Patients removed to Isolation Hospital	...	} 3
Scarlet Fever 2, Diphtheria 1	...	
Removed by Outside Authority in whose area patient was resident. Scarlet Fever.	...	} 1

HAROLD PIPER,

March 16th, 1926.

Sanitary Inspector.

